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the state over domestic and foreign corporations, is a pleasing departure from the hackneyed method of a number of other writers who have given these subjects attention. His views are in some respects advanced, but in general he has stated concisely and correctly the best modern theory upon some of the more difficult problems of corporate law.

As to some propositions enunciated by him, he cannot expect to find general acquiescence. Upon the contrary, some of his most positive assertions will not only be disputed, but it is to be hoped that the courts will never establish them as authoritative principles. And it is upon these questions that the author has not used that degree of care which the work in hand required. A number of authorities cited by him not only do not support his assertions, but in several instances it is difficult to understand what prompted their citation. C. G. L.

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**SELECTED CASES ON THE LAW OF QUASI-CONTRACTS.** By Edwin H. Woodruff. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1905. pp. xvi, 692. 8vo.

Twenty years ago there was no law book devoted to the law of Quasi-Contracts. It is believed that the subject was not taught, as such, in any law school. The term quasi-contract may be found here and there in the reports, but it was so unfamiliar to the profession that Professor Keener hesitated long before giving to the collection of cases, which was published in 1888, the title "Cases on Quasi-Contracts." Since the appearance of this book, and the same author's excellent treatise upon the subject, issued in 1893, quasi-contracts has become a term in common use, and the subject now forms a part of the curriculum in twenty or more law schools.

Professor Keener's collection, admirable as it is, is somewhat too voluminous for the time that may be properly given to this subject. For this reason, doubtless, two new collections of cases on Quasi-Contracts appeared last year, one prepared by Professor James B. Scott, the other the subject of this review.

Professor Woodruff's book is essentially an American case-book, only 25 of his 305 cases, or 8 *per cent*, being English, whereas 110 out of 285, or 39 *per cent*, in Professor Scott's book, and 208 out of 377, or 68 *per cent*, in Professor Keener's book, are taken from the English reports. The editor must have had a purpose in discriminating against the English decisions, but he does not disclose it. This exclusion of English cases is the chief criticism to be made upon this book. The cases have been chosen with skill, and are well arranged, and the notes of the editor are accurate and helpful. A student who has mastered this collection of cases cannot fail to have a good grasp of the principles of the subject.

J. B. A.

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**TRAITÉ DE LA LOCATION DES COFFRES-FORTS.** Par M. Jules Valery. Paris: Albert Fontemoing. 1905. pp. vi, 151. 8vo.

The comparatively new business of furnishing safe-deposit vaults, compartments in which may be hired by the public, is one that is having great development among all the commercial nations. The work of M. Valery, who is professor of commercial law at the University of Montpellier, is a thorough study of the legal aspects of this business under the French Code, but with such a broad view of fundamentals and constant reference for arguments and illustrations to English and American jurisprudence, as well as to that of continental countries, that the treatise is of value to readers of all nations who are interested in the subject.

Professor Valery develops first his theory of the nature of the contract between the company and its customer. Legal writers have put forth three theories, namely, that it is a contract of leasing, or one of bailment, or one of

a third unnamed species with characteristics of each of the other two; he chooses the first view after elaborately examining the arguments for each. This fundamental question settled, he minutely reviews the formation of this contract of lease, the mutual rights and duties of lessor and lessee, the effects of the contract as to third parties, its duration and the changes that may be caused by events. A well-analyzed table of contents and an index make the use of the little volume very easy, and there is a bibliography of English, French, German, and Italian works on the subject treated. W. C. G.

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**THE FIRST YEAR OF ROMAN LAW.** By Fernand Bernard. Translated by Charles P. Sherman. New York: Oxford University Press, American Branch. 1906. pp. xiii, 326. 12mo.

**THE FOUNDATIONS OF LEGAL LIABILITY.** A Presentation of the Theory and Development of the Common Law. By Thomas Atkins Street. In three volumes. Volume I, Theory and Principles of Tort; Volume II, History and Theory of English Contract Law; Volume III, Common Law Actions. Northport, N. Y.: Edward Thompson Company. 1906. pp. xxix, 500; xviii, 559; xi, 572. 8vo.

**MODERN BUSINESS CORPORATIONS**, including the Organization and Management of Private Corporations, with Financial Principles and Practices, etc. By William Allen Wood. Forms of Procedure illustrative of the Formation, Organization, Operation and Consolidation of Corporations, written or selected by Louis B. Ewbank. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1906. pp. xi, 358. 8vo.

**A DIGEST OF ENGLISH CIVIL LAW.** By Edward Jenks, W. M. Geldart, R. W. Lee, W. S. Holdsworth, and J. C. Miles. In five books. Book II, Part I, by R. W. Lee. Boston: The Boston Book Company. 1906. pp. xxii, 85-158, (25). 8vo.

**STUDIES IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. DUE PROCESS OF LAW UNDER THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.** By Lucius Polk McGehee. Northport, N. Y.: Edward Thompson Company. 1906. pp. x, 451. 8vo.

**THE GRAND JURY**, Considered from an Historical, Political, and Legal Stand-point, and the Law and Practice Relating Thereto. By George J. Edwards, Jr. Philadelphia: George T. Bisel Company. 1906. pp. lxxix, 219. 8vo.

**THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE SELDEN SOCIETY.** Volume XXI. For the year 1906. Borough Customs. Volume II. Edited for the Selden Society by Mary Bateson. London: Bernard Quaritch. 1906. pp. clxx, 242. 4to.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**, at its Second Annual Meeting, held at Baltimore, Md., December 26 to 29, 1905. Lancaster, Pa.: Wickersham Press. 1906. pp. 232. 8vo.

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**, held at Narragansett Pier, Rhode Island, August 23, 24, and 25, 1905. Philadelphia: Dando Printing and Publishing Company. 1905. pp. 968. 8vo.

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION** for the year ending June 30, 1904. Volume II. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1906. pp. vii, 1177-2480. 8vo.

**ROMAN WATER LAW.** Translated from the Pandects of Justinian by Eugene F. Ware. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 1905. pp. 160. 8vo.

**AMERICAN PUBLIC PROBLEMS.** Edited by Ralph Curtis Ringwalt. IMMIGRATION, and its Effects upon the United States. By Prescott F. Hall. New York: Henry Holt and Company. 1906. pp. xiii, 393. 8vo.